

NOBLE COUNTY, INDIANA

Highlights



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Noble County, IN Highlights

Introduction

The first edition of the *County Highlights* was published in 1993. Lillian Miles, then Labor Market Analyst for the Gary Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area, originated the idea for this descriptive area publication.

Highlights are now a web publication and, as a result, the data can be updated throughout the year, not just on an annual basis. These *Highlights* are available in easy-to-use web format but are also printable and e-mailable and provide a snapshot of critical population and workforce statistics for each of Indiana’s 92 counties, 11 Economic Growth Regions, and the State of Indiana.

Each *Highlights* includes an overview of the demographics and workforce of an area, from its population to the size of its labor force and the industry mix of jobs and wages.

Don’t hesitate to contact your regional analyst, Sharon Ringenberg (260-469-4217) if you need further information about your area.



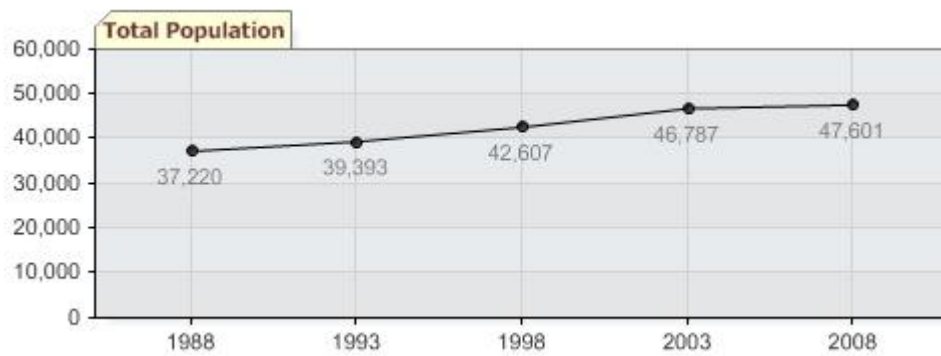
Location

Noble County is located in north east Indiana. The county is bordered on the south by Allen County and Whitley County. DeKalb County is adjacent to Noble County on the east, LaGrange County is to the north, and Elkhart and Kosciusko County to the west. Noble County is one of the eleven counties located in the area designated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development as Indiana Economic Growth Region 3.

Population

A region's economy thrives or dives because of the people who choose to live there. That choice may occur by being born there and desiring to stay, or a more deliberate one of choosing to relocate from somewhere else. Monitoring change in the size and movement of population is an important barometer of well-being. Some of us monitor these changes as an insect might gauge the shifting sands while most don't pay much attention. But the barometer is a good metaphor for population change since it can presage more notable events, such as lackluster business attraction due to lack of workers.

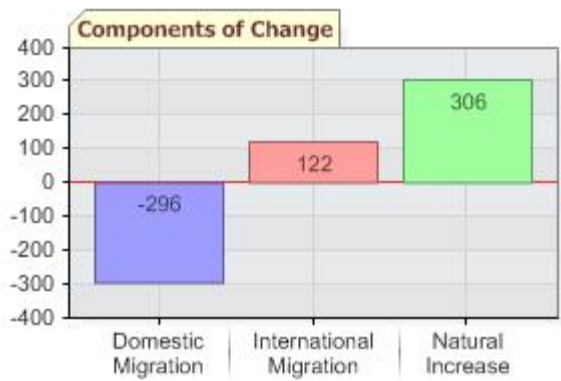
Population Over Time					
	1988	1993	1998	2003	2008
Total Population	37,220	39,393	42,607	46,787	47,601
Change Since 1988		2,173	5,387	9,567	10,381
Pct. Change Since 1988		5.8%	14.5%	25.7%	27.9%



Source: US Census Bureau

Components of Population Change 2007 to 2008

	Number
Net Domestic Migration	-296
International Migration	122
Natural Increase (births minus deaths)	306
Births	697
Deaths	391



Source: US Census Bureau

Population Estimates by Age in 2007

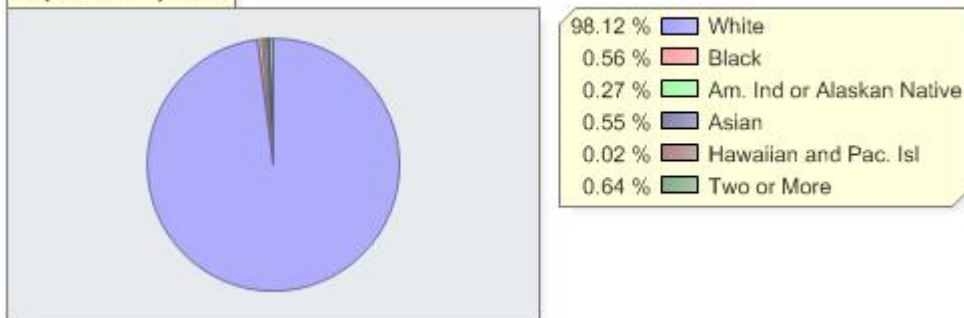
	Number	Pct. Dist
Preschool	3,426	7.2%
School Age	9,359	19.7%
College Age	3,723	7.8%
Young Adult	13,822	29.1%
Older Adult	11,837	24.9%
Older (65 plus)	5,359	11.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin in 2007

	Number	Pct. Dist
American Ind. or Alaskan Native Alone	127	0.3%
Asian Alone	261	0.6%
Black Alone	266	0.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pac. Isl. Alone	8	0.0%
White Alone	46,560	98.1%
Two or More Race Groups	304	0.6%

Population by Race



Hispanic or Latino

Non-Hispanic or Latino	42,631	89.8%
Hispanic or Latino	4,895	10.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

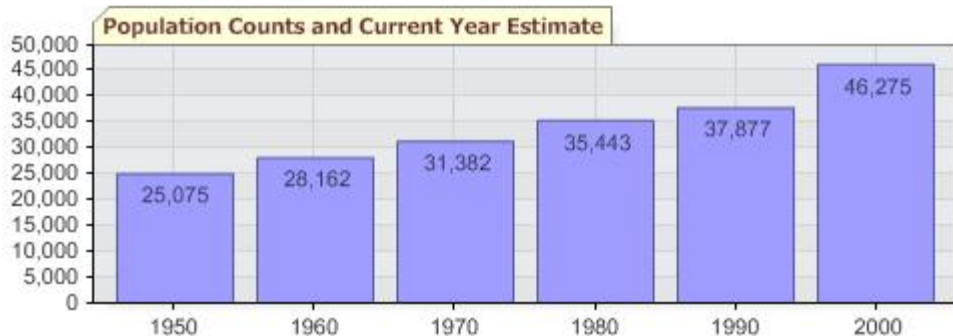
Households in 2000

	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Households	16,696	100.0%
Family Households	12,294	73.6%
Married with Children	4,834	29.0%
Married without Children	5,210	31.2%
Single Parents	1,408	8.4%
Other	842	5.0%
Non-family Households	4,402	26.4%
Living Alone	3,650	21.9%
Average Household Size	2.78	
Average Family Household Size	3.78	

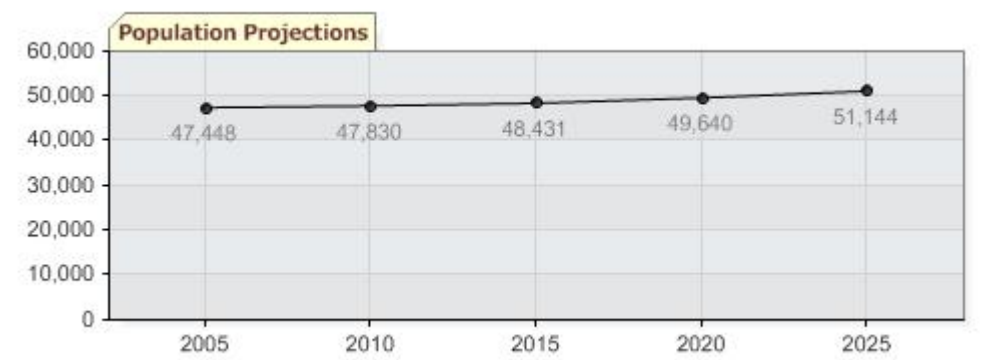
Source: US Census Bureau

Population Counts by Decade and Current Year Estimate

	Population	Numerical Chg.	Pct. Chg.
1950	25,075	NA	NA
1960	28,162	3,087	12.3%
1970	31,382	3,220	11.4%
1980	35,443	4,061	12.9%
1990	37,877	2,434	6.9%
April 2000	46,275	8,398	22.2%
2007	N/A	N/A	N/A



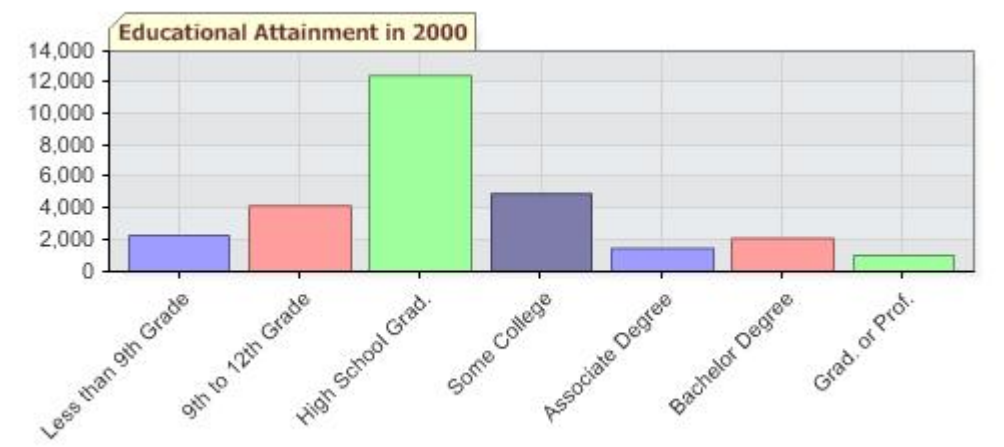
Population Projections					
	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Population Projections	47,448	47,830	48,431	49,640	51,144
Change Since 2005		382	983	2,192	3,696
Pct. Change Since 2005		0.8%	2.1%	4.6%	7.8%



Education

The level of education of our workforce is a critical factor for economic and community development. It often provides insight into the skill levels of a local area. The metrics provided here focus on the attainment of degrees and high school graduates' higher education intent. The type of work (occupations) residents perform can also assist in understanding skill levels.

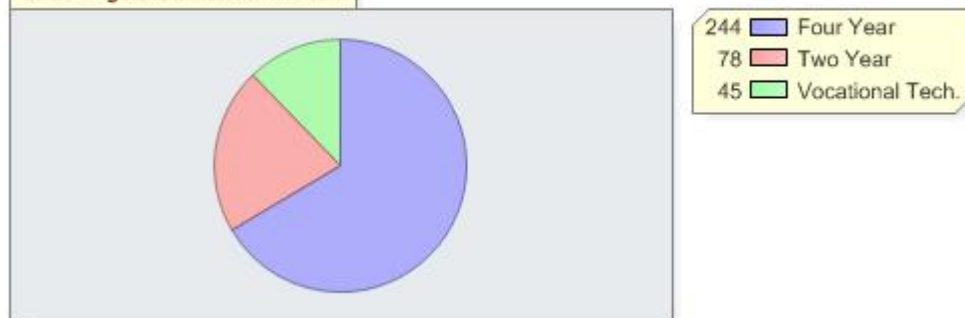
Educational Attainment				
	1970	1980	1990	2000
Total Population 25 and Older	16,708	20,049	23,151	28,554
Less than 9th Grade	4,457	3,809	2,350	2,299
9th to 12th, No Diploma	3,362	3,524	4,113	4,169
High School Graduate (incl. equiv.)	6,735	9,008	10,240	12,467
Some College, No Degree			3,522	4,960
Associate Degree			1,066	1,495
Bachelors Degree			1,036	2,120
Graduate or Professional Degree			824	1,044



High School Graduates Going on to Higher Education

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Graduates	455	464	479	458
Total to Higher Education	319	354	359	367
Four-Year Institution	236	241	256	244
Two-Year Institution	56	64	74	78
Vocational/Tech.	27	49	29	45
Military	18	15	18	14

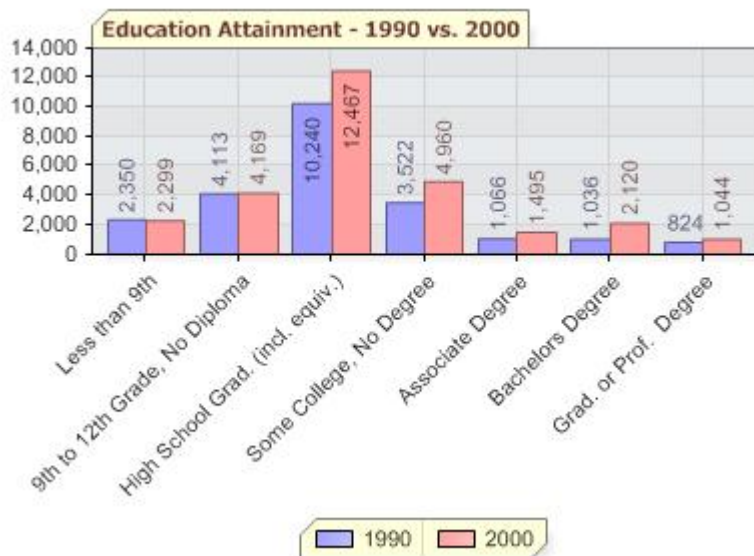
2007 Higher Education Intent



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Educational Attainment in 1990 and 2000

	1990	Pct. of Pop. 25+	2000	Pct. of Pop. 25+
Total Population 25+	23,151	100.0%	28,554	100.0%
Less than 9th Grade	2,350	10.2%	2,299	8.1%
9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma	4,113	17.8%	4,169	14.6%
High School Graduate (incl. equivalency)	10,240	44.2%	12,467	43.7%
Some College, No Degree	3,522	15.2%	4,960	17.4%
Associate Degree	1,066	4.6%	1,495	5.2%
Bachelors Degree	1,036	4.5%	2,120	7.4%
Graduate or Professional Degree	824	3.6%	1,044	3.7%

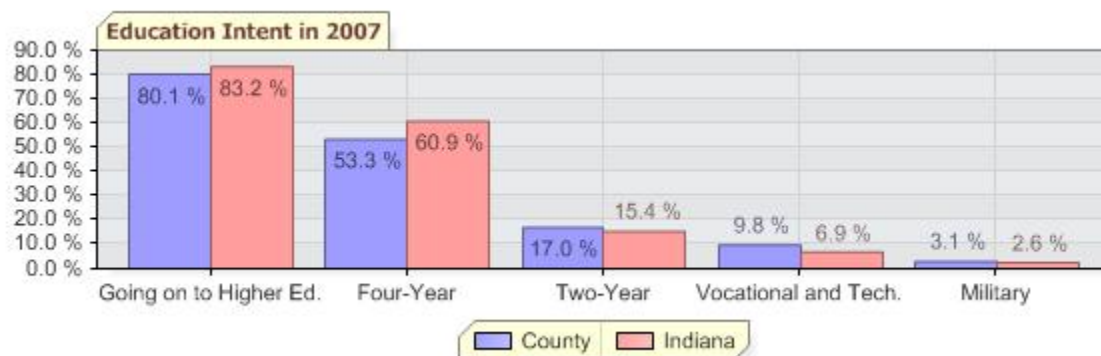


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

High School Graduates Higher Education Intent

	2007 Pct. Dist.	Indiana Pct. Dist.

Graduates	100.0%	100.0%
Total Going on to Higher Education	80.1%	83.2%
Four-Year Institution	53.3%	60.9%
Two-Year Institution	17.0%	15.4%
Vocational and Tech.	9.8%	6.9%
Military	3.1%	2.6%



Source: Indiana Department of Education

Commuting

In Indiana, most workers commute to a job, either within their home county or beyond. Patterns of commuting are significant in showing the labor supply. The county *labor force* represents workers who reside in the county no matter where they work. Two types of commuting patterns are provided here - the Census 2000 *benchmark* and the annual data tabulated from state income tax returns that can help provide a more current view.

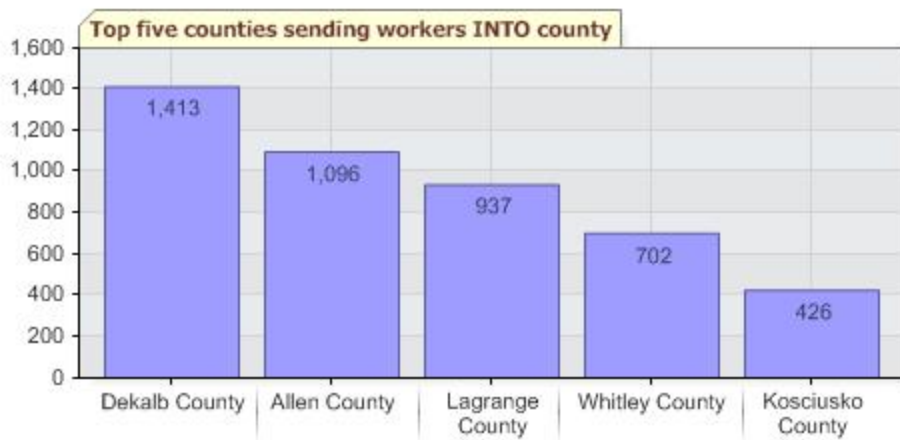
Commuting Data, 2007

	Number
Number of tax filers who live in county and work	31,031
Number of tax filers who work in the county	27,948
Number of tax filers who live in county and work in county	22,399
Number of tax filers who live out of the county and work in county	5,549

Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties sending workers INTO county, 2007

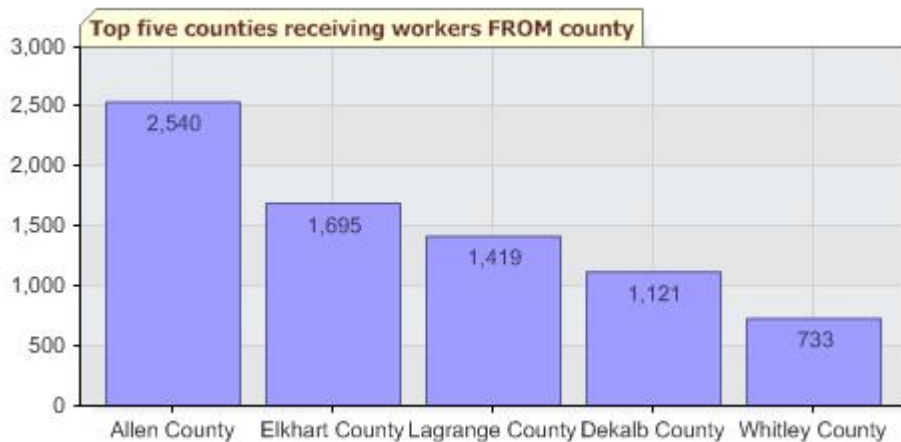
County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Dekalb County	1,413	31.0%
Allen County	1,096	24.1%
Lagrange County	937	20.6%
Whitley County	702	15.4%
Kosciusko County	426	9.2%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Commuting Patterns: Top five counties receiving workers FROM county, 2007

County	Number	Pct. Five County Total
Allen County	2,540	33.8%
Elkhart County	1,695	22.6%
Lagrange County	1,419	18.9%
Dekalb County	1,121	14.9%
Whitley County	733	9.8%



Source: Indiana Department of Revenue

Travel To Work in 2000

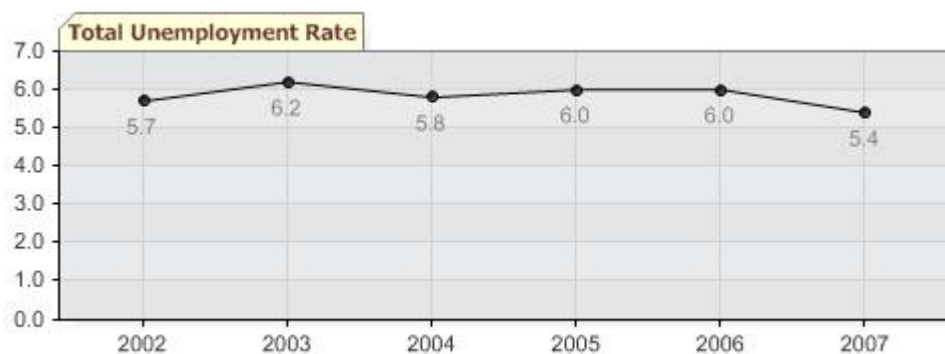
	Number	Pct. Dist
Total Workers Age 16 and Over	22,670	100.0%
Travel To Work	22,082	97.4%
Car, Truck, or Van	21,372	94.3%
Traveled Alone	18,244	80.5%
Carpooled	3,128	13.8%
Used Public Transportation	63	0.3%
Motorcycle, Bicycle, Walked, Other	647	2.9%
Worked At Home	588	2.6%
Average Travel Time (Minutes)	21.2	
Average Travel Time using Public Transportation (Minutes)	16.8	

Labor Force

An area's labor force provides insight on the availability factor and is residence-based - that is, the people are working or seeking work and reside in the particular county or region.

Annual Labor Force Estimates in 2007

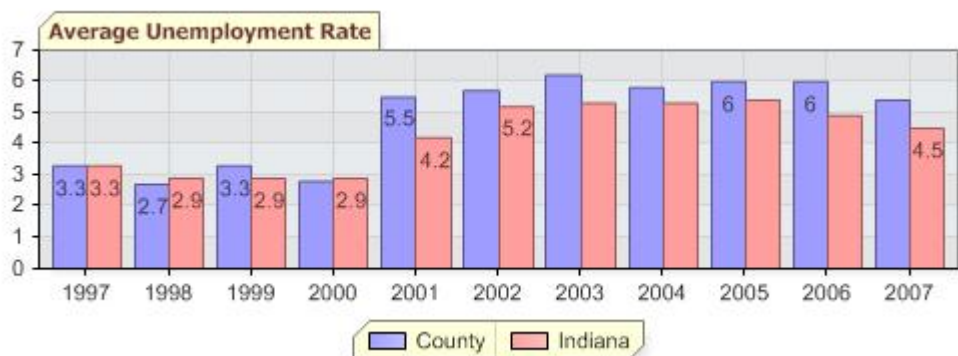
	Number	Pct. Chg. from 2000
Labor Force	23,257	-5.3%
Employed	21,997	-7.9%
Unemployed	1,260	85.8%
Rate	5.4	92.9%



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Labor Force Estimates

	Labor Force	Emp.	Unemp.	Cnty. Rate	State Rate
1997	25,044	24,229	815	3.3	3.3
1998	24,777	24,105	672	2.7	2.9
1999	24,693	23,877	816	3.3	2.9
2000	24,560	23,882	678	2.8	2.9
2001	24,016	22,695	1,321	5.5	4.2
2002	23,687	22,338	1,349	5.7	5.2
2003	23,632	22,168	1,464	6.2	5.3
2004	23,466	22,102	1,364	5.8	5.3
2005	23,743	22,309	1,434	6.0	5.4
2006	23,623	22,200	1,423	6.0	4.9
2007	23,257	21,997	1,260	5.4	4.5



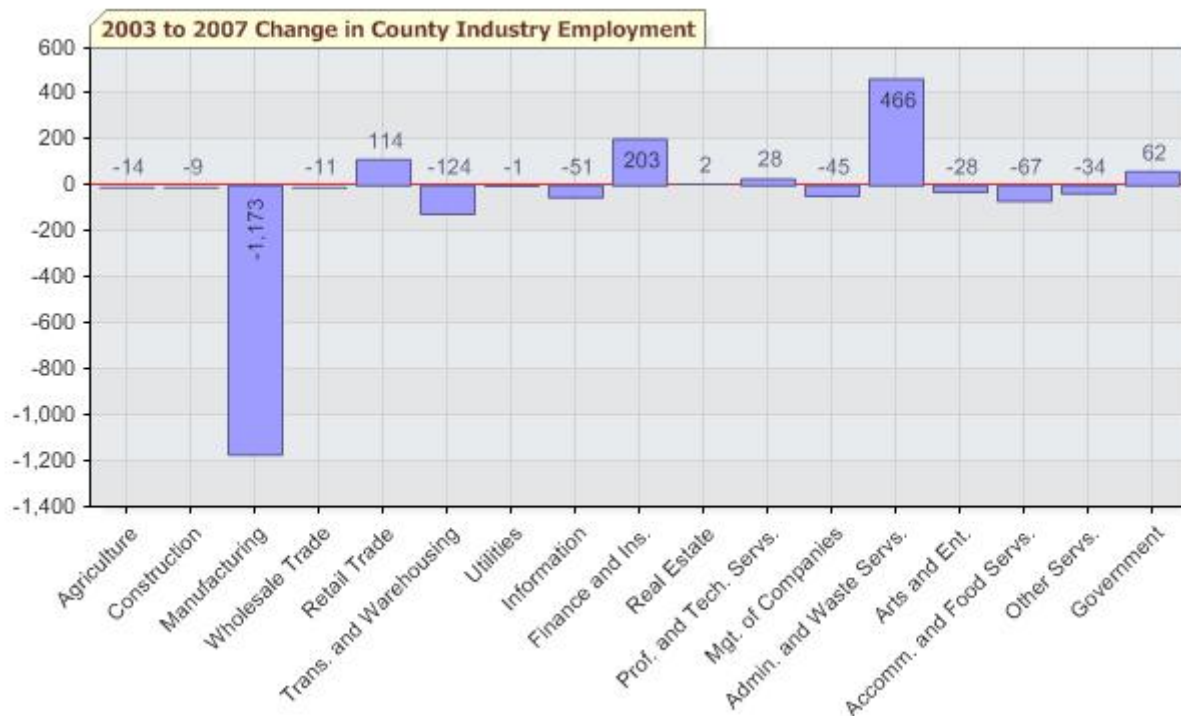
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry.

Average Employment by Sector

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change 2003-2007	% Change 2003-2007
Total Employment	19,500	19,473	19,541	19,140	18,940	-560	-2.87%
Total Private Employment	17,555	17,502	17,572	17,169	16,933	-622	-3.54%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	129	127	128	115	115	-14	-10.85%
Mining	D	42	39	21	23	N/A	N/A
Construction	520	500	511	529	511	-9	-1.73%
Manufacturing	10,222	10,121	9,975	9,276	9,049	-1,173	-11.48%
Wholesale Trade	317	298	279	288	306	-11	-3.47%
Retail Trade	1,398	1,490	1,565	1,561	1,512	114	8.15%
Transport. and Warehousing	261	143	125	135	137	-124	-47.51%
Utilities	63	62	60	61	62	-1	-1.59%
Information	325	315	329	339	274	-51	-15.69%
Finance and Insurance	243	243	325	403	446	203	83.54%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	103	108	97	115	105	2	1.94%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	267	289	292	285	295	28	10.49%
Mgmt. of Companies	174	147	137	134	129	-45	-25.86%
Admin. and Waste Services	617	729	828	941	1,083	466	75.53%
Educational Services	131	160	171	146	139	N/A	N/A
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,119	1,091	1,108	1,203	1,225	N/A	N/A
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	90	79	77	65	62	-28	-31.11%
Accommodation and Food Service	1,056	1,064	1,008	1,052	989	-67	-6.34%
Other Services	506	496	518	499	472	-34	-6.72%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	1,945	1,971	1,969	1,971	2,007	62	3.19%

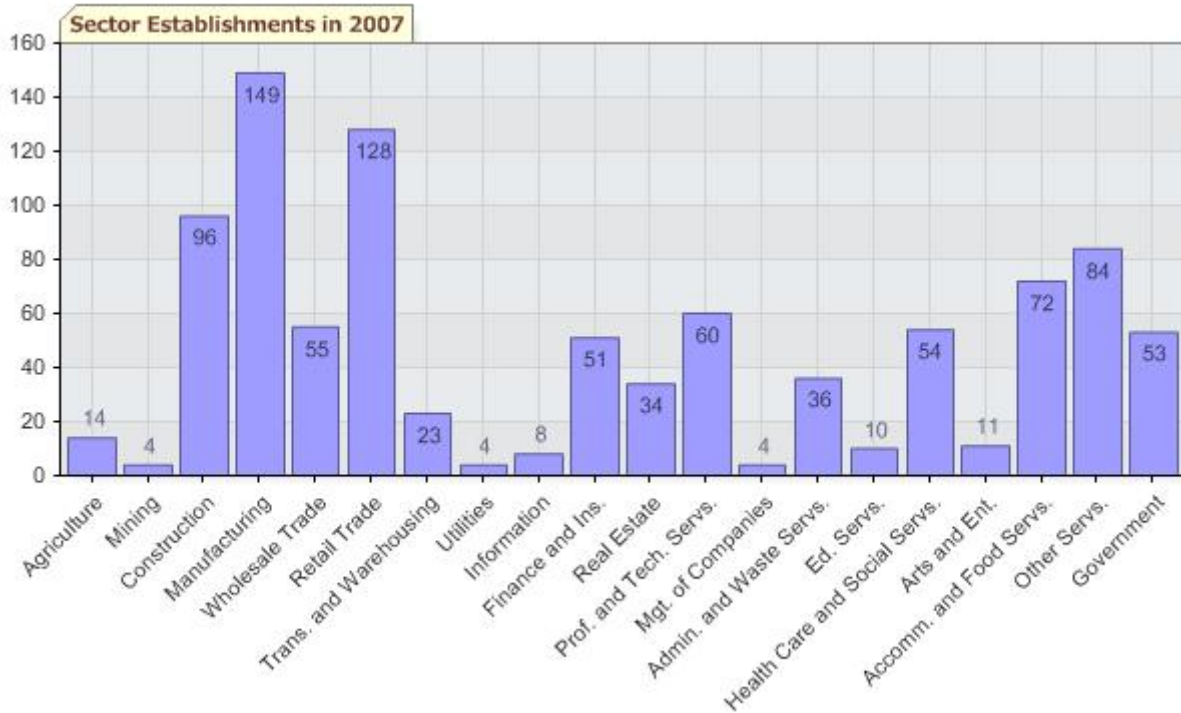


Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Establishments by Sector

Change % Change

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007
Total Establishments	938	932	928	942	947	9	0.96%
Total Private Establishments	894	888	884	897	894	0	0.00%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunt	15	13	15	14	14	-1	-6.67%
Mining	D	4	4	4	4	N/A	N/A
Construction	100	95	95	96	96	-4	-4.00%
Manufacturing	155	159	152	146	149	-6	-3.87%
Wholesale Trade	52	50	48	52	55	3	5.77%
Retail Trade	124	123	127	132	128	4	3.23%
Transport. and Warehousing	26	19	18	22	23	-3	-11.54%
Utilities	4	4	4	4	4	0	0.00%
Information	11	9	9	10	8	-3	-27.27%
Finance and Insurance	45	47	51	52	51	6	13.33%
Real Estate, Rental, Leasing	27	30	31	34	34	7	25.93%
Professional and Tech. Servs.	54	58	60	60	60	6	11.11%
Mgmt. of Companies	5	4	4	4	4	-1	-20.00%
Admin. and Waste Services	33	33	34	31	36	3	9.09%
Educational Services	9	9	10	9	10	1	11.11%
Health Care and Social Assistance	62	57	55	53	54	-8	-12.90%
Arts, Entertain., and Recreation	13	12	11	12	11	-2	-15.38%
Accommodation and Food Service	68	72	71	75	72	4	5.88%
Other Services	89	89	88	88	84	-5	-5.62%
Federal, State, & Local Govt.	44	44	44	45	53	9	20.45%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

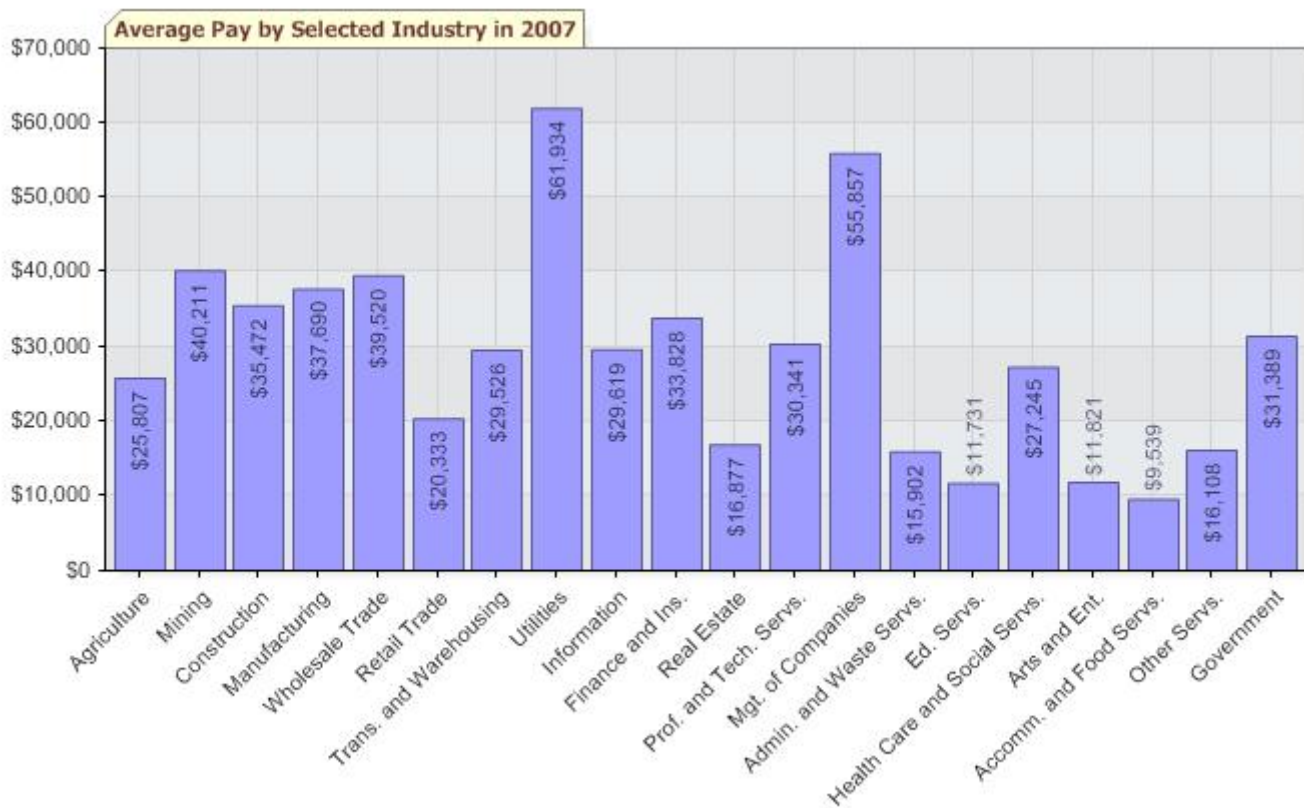
Earnings and Income

Industry employment is tabulated as jobs by place-of-work. Keep in mind that people may hold multiple jobs and that each job is counted by its industry. Note: The income figures and changes are not adjusted for inflation.

Average Annual Earnings by Industry

Change % Change Indiana % of

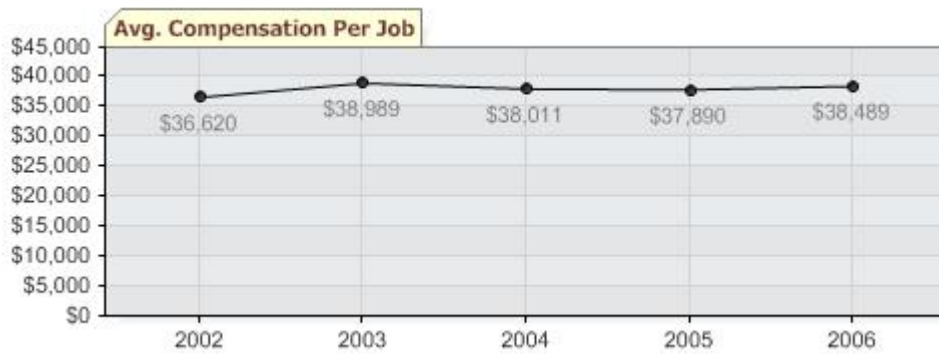
	2003	2007	2003-2007	2003-2007	2007	State
All Industries	\$29,650	\$31,041	\$1,391	4.7%	\$37,530	82.7%
Ag., For., Fishing, & Hunt.	\$21,381	\$25,807	\$4,426	20.7%	\$28,008	92.1%
Mining	D	\$40,211	N/A	N/A	\$57,315	70.2%
Construction	\$30,868	\$35,472	\$4,604	14.9%	\$44,754	79.3%
Manufacturing	\$35,581	\$37,690	\$2,109	5.9%	\$51,148	73.7%
Wholesale Trade	\$34,298	\$39,520	\$5,222	15.2%	\$51,432	76.8%
Retail Trade	\$18,980	\$20,333	\$1,353	7.1%	\$22,581	90.0%
Trans. & Warehousing	\$28,224	\$29,526	\$1,301	4.6%	\$38,012	77.7%
Utilities	\$54,988	\$61,934	\$6,946	12.6%	\$68,267	90.7%
Information	\$26,410	\$29,619	\$3,209	12.2%	\$46,311	64.0%
Finance & Insurance	\$29,127	\$33,828	\$4,702	16.1%	\$52,649	64.3%
Real Est., Rent., Leasing	\$14,107	\$16,877	\$2,770	19.6%	\$32,614	51.7%
Prof. & Tech. Svcs.	\$30,317	\$30,341	\$24	0.1%	\$51,451	59.0%
Mgt.of Companies	\$45,595	\$55,857	\$10,261	22.5%	\$72,682	76.9%
Admin. & Waste Svcs.	\$16,887	\$15,902	-\$985	-5.8%	\$24,934	63.8%
Education Svcs.	\$12,213	\$11,731	-\$483	-4.0%	\$31,029	37.8%
Health Care & Social Assist.	\$23,424	\$27,245	\$3,822	16.3%	\$37,706	72.3%
Arts, Ent. & Rec.	\$11,382	\$11,821	\$440	3.9%	\$29,251	40.4%
Accom. & Food Svcs.	\$9,161	\$9,539	\$379	4.1%	\$12,442	76.7%
Other Svcs.	\$16,337	\$16,108	-\$229	-1.4%	\$24,862	64.8%
Fed.I, State & Local Govt.	\$29,049	\$31,389	\$2,340	8.1%	\$37,054	84.7%



Note: D = non-discloseable in compliance with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and/or State of Indiana confidentiality guidelines. Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, as of January 29, 2009

Average Compensation Per Job Over Time

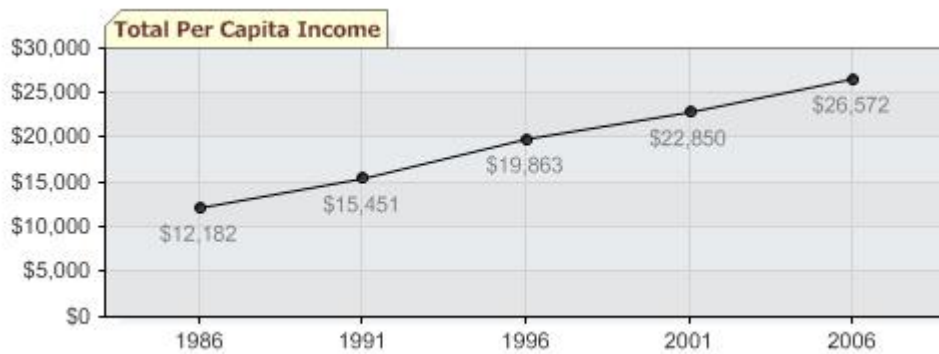
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Avg. Compensation per Job	\$36,620	\$38,989	\$38,011	\$37,890	\$38,489
Change Since 2002		\$2,369	\$1,391	\$1,270	\$1,869
Pct. Change Since 2002		6.5%	3.8%	3.5%	5.1%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Per Capita Income Over Time

	1986	1991	1996	2001	2006
Total Per Capita Income	\$12,182	\$15,451	\$19,863	\$22,850	\$26,572
Change Since 1986		\$3,269	\$7,681	\$10,668	\$14,390
Pct. Change Since 1986		26.8%	63.1%	87.6%	118.1%



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Income & Wage

	Number
Median family income in 2007 (ACS)	N/A
Median household income in 2007 (ACS)	N/A
Average Wage Per Job in 2007 (BLS)	\$31,040
Wage Growth since 1997 (BLS)	27.1%

Source: US Census Bureau & Bureau of Labor Statistics

Firms and Employment by Size

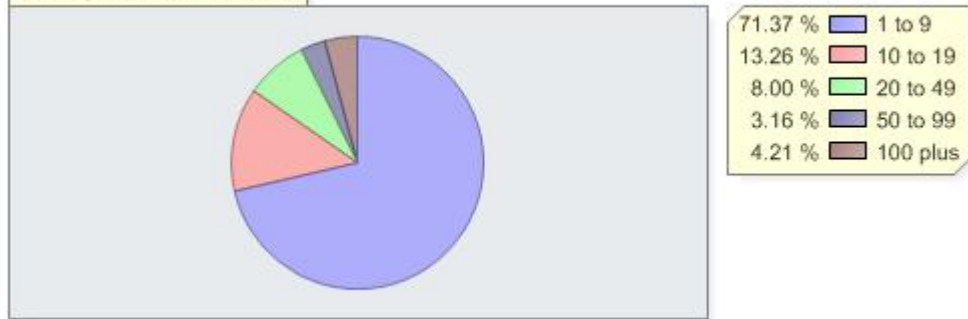
Firm data are available for most counties by the size of the firms and average employment by business unit size.

County Business Patterns, 2006

	Establishments	Number Chg. 01 to 06	Pct.Chg. 01 to 06	Pct. of Total
1-9 employees	678	41	6.4%	71.4%
10-19 employees	126	9	7.7%	13.3%
20-49 employees	76	-11	-12.6%	8.0%

50-99 employees	30	-5	-14.3%	3.2%
100 plus employees	40	-5	-11.1%	4.2%
TOTAL	950	29	3.1%	100.0%

County Business Patterns

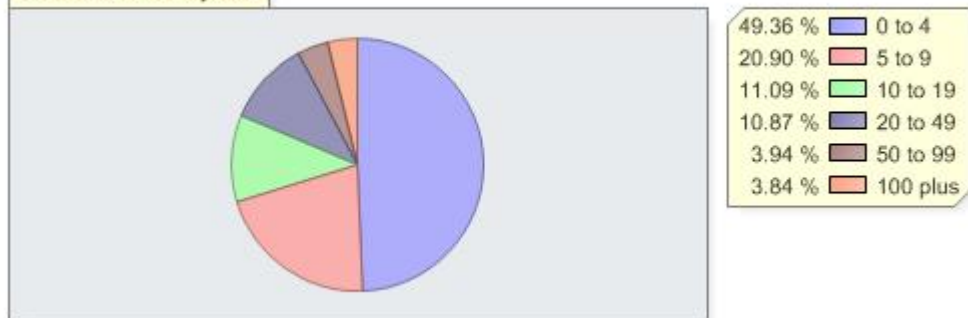


Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Firms by Size, 2008:3

	Number of Business Units, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	463	49.4%
5 to 9 employees	196	20.9%
10 to 19 employees	104	11.1%
20 to 49 employees	102	10.9%
50 to 99 employees	37	3.9%
100 plus employees	36	3.8%
TOTAL	938	100.0%

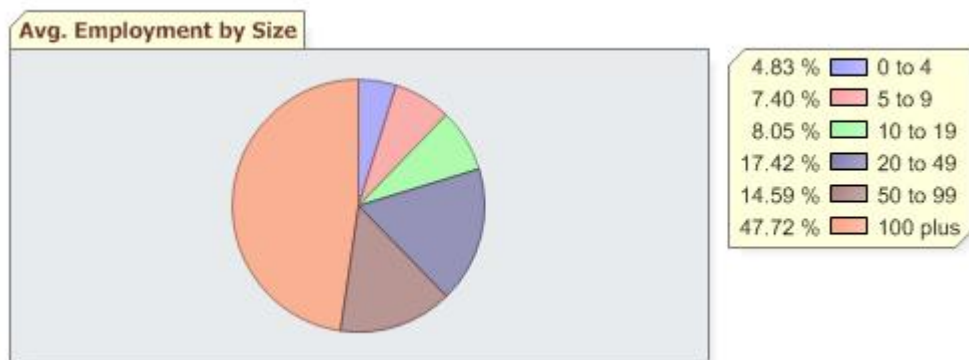
Business Units by Size



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.

Avg. Employment by Business Unit Size, 2008:3

	Avg. Employment, 2008:2	Pct. of Total
0 to 4 employees	852	4.8%
5 to 9 employees	1,305	7.4%
10 to 19 employees	1,421	8.1%
20 to 49 employees	3,074	17.4%
50 to 99 employees	2,574	14.6%
100 plus employees	8,420	47.7%
TOTAL	17,645	100.0%



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Covered Employment; Note: Business Units with zero employees and Federal Government Employees are included.